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CLMPTO

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1. (Three Times Amended) A rapid deploy containment device adapted to receive and retain hazardous waste, the containment device being convertible between an erect open configuration and a collapsed compact configuration, the containment device in the erect open configuration forming a receptacle region, the containment device comprising:

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a plurality of rods, each rod comprising a first end, a second end, and an intermediate portion, wherein the intermediate portion of each rod is pivotably connected to the intermediate portion of another rod;

a plurality of first hubs, each first hub receiving first ends of at least two respective rods, wherein each respective rod is pivotable with respect to the first hub about a distinct axis; and

a plurality of second hubs configured to engage a support surface, each second hub receiving second ends of at least two respective rods, wherein each respective rod is pivotable with respect to the second hub about a distinct axis; and

a receptacle comprising a plurality of attachment portions secured to respective first hubs, wherein the receptacle collapses when the frame is in the closed configuration and the receptacle forms a containment volume in the central space when the frame is in the open configuration.

2. The containment device recited in claim 1, wherein each of said hubs includes flanges, where at least two of the flanges receive the end portion of said rods.

3. The containment device recited in claim 2, wherein the end portion of each of said rods is pivotally joined to one of said flanges by a pin inserted through the end portion of said rod and received on said flange.

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2 4. (Once amended) The containment device recited in claim 2, wherein the at least two flanges lie substantially perpendicular to one another, whereby each of said hubs receives rods along a first axis and a second axis perpendicular to the first axis.

5. The containment device recited in claim 4, wherein the ends of said substantially perpendicular flanges bend at right angles in either a clockwise or counterclockwise direction.

6. The containment device recited in claim 5, wherein the end portion of each of said rods is pivotally joined to a hub by a pin inserted through the end portion of said rod and received on two opposing flanges.

7. The containment device recited in claim 1, wherein each of said hubs includes a base portion, the end portion of each of said rods being pivotally joined to said base portion by a pin inserted through the end portion of said rods and received on said base portion.

8. (Once amended) The containment device recited in claim 2, wherein said hub includes a base portion, where the at least two flanges project from said base portion.

9. The containment device recited in claim 1, wherein each rod is of substantially equal length and wherein said scissor connection is proximate the middle of each rod.

CLAIMS 10-12 ARE CANCELLED

13. (Twice Amended) The containment device recited in claim 1, further comprising a liner positioned in the receptacle region adjacent said canopy, said liner being made of a material resistive to hazardous chemicals.

CLAIMS 14-19 ARE CANCELLED

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20. (Three Times Amended) A rapid deploy containment device adapted to receive and retain hazardous waste, the containment device being convertible between an erect open configuration and a collapsed compact configuration, the containment device comprising:

rods, each rod being pivotally joined to another rod by a scissors connection intermediate the ends of said rod;

hubs, each hub receiving an end portion of at least two rods along separate axes of each hub, the end portion being pivotally joined to said hub, where the end portion pivots in relation to said hub along a single axis of revolution,

each end portion being rotatable about its axis of revolution from the collapsed compact configuration, where all of said rods are substantially parallel to one another and where said hubs are positioned adjacent one another at each end portion of the collapsed compact configuration, to the open erect configuration, wherein the hubs positioned proximate a top portion of the collapsed compact configuration descend downward toward a bottom portion of the containment device when converting from the collapsed compact configuration to the erect open configuration and wherein the containment device articulates between the collapsed compact configuration and the erect open configuration in height, length, and width; and

a canopy affixed to at least two hubs proximate the top portion of the containment device in the open erect configuration to form the receptacle region capable of receiving and retaining hazardous chemicals.

21. (new) The containment device recited in claim 1, wherein the canopy is made of a material resistive to hazardous chemicals.

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22. A method of retaining hazardous waste comprising the steps of:
- providing a rapid deploy containment device in a collapsed configuration, the containment device having
 - rods, each rod being pivotally joined to another rod by a scissors connection intermediate the ends of each rod,
 - hubs, each hub receiving an end portion of at least two rods along separate axes of each hub, wherein the end portions are pivotally joined to the hub to rotate along an axis of revolution, and
 - a canopy connected to at least two hubs;
 - transporting the collapsed containment device to a hazardous waste site;
 - expanding the containment device in its height, width, and length from the collapsed configuration to an open erect configuration; and
 - receiving hazardous waste in the canopy of the erect containment device.
23. The method of claim 22, wherein the transporting step includes manually carrying the collapsed containment device to the hazardous waste site.
24. The method of claim 22, wherein the expanding step includes rotating the end portion of the rods about its axis of revolution from the collapsed configuration, where all of said rods are substantially parallel to one another, to the erect open configuration, whereby the containment device articulates between the collapsed and open configurations in height, length, and width.
25. The method of claim 24, where in the expanding step further includes moving the hubs positioned proximate the top portion of the collapsed configuration downward toward the bottom portion of the containment device.

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26. The method of claim 25, wherein the providing step further includes connecting the canopy to at least two hubs positioned proximate the upper portion of the containment device when the containment device is in the open erect configuration.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the expanding step further includes forming a receptacle region defined by the open erect containment device and positioning the canopy in the receptacle region.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the receiving step includes receiving and retaining hazardous chemicals in the canopy.

29. (New) A portable containment device comprising:

a frame movable between a closed configuration, in which the frame delimits a negligible area, and an open configuration, in which the frame forms a plurality of walls defining a central space, wherein the frame comprises:

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a plurality of rods, each rod comprising a first end, a second end, and an intermediate portion, wherein the intermediate portion of each rod is pivotably connected to the intermediate portion of another rod;

a plurality of first hubs, each first hub receiving first ends of at least two respective rods, wherein each respective rod is pivotable with respect to the first hub about a distinct axis; and

a plurality of second hubs configured to engage a support surface, each second hub receiving second ends of at least two respective rods, wherein each respective rod is pivotable with respect to the second hub about a distinct axis; and

a receptacle comprising a plurality of attachment portions secured to respective first hubs, wherein the receptacle collapses when the frame is in the closed configuration and the receptacle forms a containment volume in the central space when the frame is in the open configuration.

30. (New) The device of claim 29, wherein the frame defines a length, a width, and a height and wherein the length, the width, and the height of the frame in the closed configuration are different from the length, the width, and the height of the frame in the open configuration.

31. (New) The device of claim 30, wherein the length and the width of the frame in the closed configuration are less than the length and the width of the frame in the open configuration.

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32. (New) The device of claim 30, wherein the height of the frame in the closed configuration is greater than the height of the frame in the open configuration.

33. (New) The device of claim 29, wherein at least one rod received by a first hub is pivotable about a first axis and wherein at least one other rod received by the first hub is pivotable about a second axis substantially perpendicular to the first axis.

34. (New) The device of claim 29, wherein at least one rod received by a second hub is pivotable about a third axis and wherein at least one other rod received by the second hub is pivotable about a fourth axis substantially perpendicular to the third axis.

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